

SLI

3. Not bulky; slight; not strong.
Love in these labyrinths his slaves detains,
And mighty hearts are held in slender chains. *Pope.*
4. Small; inconsiderable; weak.
Yet they, who claim the general assent of the whole world
unto that which they teach, and do not fear to give very
hard and heavy sentence upon as many as refuse to embrace
the same, must have special regard, that their first founda-
tions and grounds be more than slender probabilities. *Hooker.*
Where joy most revels, grief doth most lament;
Grief joys, joy grieves, on slender accident. *Shakespeare.*
Positively to define that season, there is no slender difficul-
ty. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
It is a very slender comfort that relies upon this nice distinc-
tion, between things being troublesome, and being evils;
when all the evil of affliction lies in the trouble it creates to
us. *Tilghson.*
5. Sparing; less than enough: as, a slender estate and slender parts.
At my lodging,
The worst is this, that at so slender warning,
You're like to have a thin and slender pittance. *Shaksp.*
In obstructions inflammatory, the aliment ought to be cool,
slender, thin, diluting. *Arbutnot.*
6. Not amply supplied.
The good Ostorius often deign'd
To grace my slender table with his presence. *Philips.*
- SL'NDERLY. *adv.* [from slender.]
1. Without bulk.
2. Slightly; meanly.
If the debt be not just, we know not what may be deemed
just, neither is it a sum to be slenderly regarded. *Hayward.*
If I have done well, it is that which I desired; but if slenderly
and meanly, it is that which I could attain to. *2 Mac.*
- SL'NDERNESS. *n. f.* [from slender.]
1. Thinness; smallness of circumference.
Small whistles give a sound because of their extreme slender-
ness, whereby the air is more pent than in a wider pipe.
Their colours arise from the thinness of the transparent
parts of the feathers; that is from the slenderness of the very
fine hairs or capillamenta, which grow out of the sides of the
groffer lateral branches or fibres of those feathers. *Newton.*
2. Want of bulk or strength.
It is preceded by a spitting of blood, occasioned by its
acrimony, and too great a projectile motion, with slenderness
and weakness of the vessels. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
3. Slightness; weakness; inconsiderableness.
The slenderness of your reasons against the book, together
with the inconveniences that must of necessity follow, have
procured a great credit unto it. *Whitgift.*
4. Want of plenty.
SLEPT. The preterite of sleep.
Silence! coeval with eternity,
Thou wert ere nature first began to be,
'Twas one vast nothing all, and all slept fast in thee. *Pope.*
- SLEW. The preterite of slay.
He slew Hamet, a great commander among the Numidians,
and chafed Benchades and Amida, two of their greatest prin-
ces, out of the country. *Kneller's History of the Turks.*
- TO SLEW. *v. n.* [See to SLEAVE.] To part or twist into
threads.
Why art thou then exasperate, thou immaterial skein of
slewd silk? *Shakespeare.*
- TO SLICE. *v. n.* [Slican, Saxon.]
1. To cut into flat pieces.
Their cooks make no more ado, but slicing it into little
gobbets, prick it on a prong of iron, and hang it in a fur-
nace. *Sandy's Journey.*
The residue were on foot, well furnished with jack and
skull, pikes and slicing swords, broad, thin, and of an excel-
lent temper. *Hayward.*
2. To cut into parts.
Nature lost one by thee, and therefore must
Slice one in two to keep her number just. *Cleaveland.*
3. To cut off.
When hungry thou stood'st staring, like an oaf,
I sic'd the luncheon from the barley loaf. *Gay.*
4. To cut; to divide.
Ambitious princes and tyrants slice the earth among them.
Burnet's Theory of the Earth.
- SLICE. *n. f.* [Slican, Saxon; from the verb.]
1. A broad piece cut off.
Hacking of trees in their bark, both downright and acrofs,
so as you may make them rather in slices than in continued
backs, doth great good to trees. *Bacon.*
You need not wipe your knife to cut bread; because in
cutting a slice or two it will wipe itself. *Swift.*
He from out the chimney took,
A slice of bacon off the hook,
And freely, from the fattest side,
Cut out large slices to be fry'd. *Swift.*

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2. A broad piece.
Then clap four slices of pilaster on't,
That lac'd with bits of rustick, makes a front. *Pope.*
3. A broad head fixed in a handle; a peel; a spatula.
The pelican hath a beak broad and flat, much like the slice
of apothecaries, with which they spread plaisters. *Hortwell.*
When burning with the iron in it, with the slice, clap the
coals upon the outside close together, to keep the heat in. *Mar.*
- SLICK. *adj.* [Slick, Dutch. See SLEEK.]
Glass attracts but weakly; some slick stones, and thick glass
fles indifferently. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- SLID. The preterite of slide.
At first the silent venom slid with ease,
And seiz'd her cooler senses by degrees. *Dryden's Æneid.*
- SLID'DEN. The participle passive of slide.
Why is this people slidden back, by a perpetual backslid-
ing? *Jer. viii. 5.*
- TO SLID'DER. *v. n.* [Slidderen, Dutch.] To slide with inter-
ruption.
Go thou from me to fate,
Now die: with that he dragg'd the trembling fire,
Sliddering through clotted blood. *Dryden.*
- TO SLIDE. *v. n.* *slid*, preterite; *slidden*, participle pass. [Slican,
Slicene, sliding, Saxon; *sliden*, Dutch; *sl-lithe*, Welsh.]
1. To pass along smoothly; to slip; to glide.
Sounds do not only slide upon the surface of a smooth body,
but communicate with the spirits in the pores of the body.
Bacon's Natural History.
- Ulysses, Sthenelus, Tifander slide
Down by a rope, Machaon was their guide. *Dentham.*
2. To move without change of the foot.
Oh Ladon, happy Ladon, rather slide than run by her,
lest thou shouldst make her legs slip from her. *Sidney.*
Smooth sliding without step. *Milton.*
He that once fins, like him that slides on ice,
Goes swiftly down the slippery ways of vice:
Though conscience checks him, yet those rubs gone o'er,
He slides on smoothly, and looks back no more. *Dryden.*
3. To pass inadvertently.
Make a door and a bar for thy mouth: beware thou slide
not by it. *Eccles. xxviii. 26.*
4. To pass unnoticed.
In the prince's I could find no apprehension of what I
said or did, but with a calm carelessness, letting every thing
slide justly, as we do by their speeches, who neither in mat-
ter nor person do any way belong unto us. *Sidney.*
5. To pass along by silent and unobserved progression.
Thou shalt
Hate all, shew charity to none;
But let the famish'd flesh slide from the bone,
Ere thou relieve the beggar. *Shakespeare.*
Then no day void of bliss, of pleasure leaving,
Ages shall slide away without perceiving. *Dryden.*
Rescue me from their ignoble hands:
Let me kiss yours when you my wound begin,
Then easy death will slide with pleasure in. *Dryden.*
Their eye slides over the pages, or the words slide over their
eyes, and vanish like a rhapsody of evening tales. *Watts.*
6. To pass silently and gradually from good to bad.
Nor could they have slid into those brutish immoralities of
life, had they duly manured those first practical notions and
dictates of right reason. *South.*
7. To pass without difficulty or obstruction.
Such of them should be retained as slide easily of themselves
into English compounds, without violence to the ear. *Pope.*
Begin with sense, of every art the soul,
Parts answering parts shall slide into a whole;
Nature shall join you, time shall make it grow
A work to wonder at. *Pope.*
8. To move upon the ice by a single impulse, without change
of feet.
The gallants dancing by the river side,
They bathe in summer, and in winter slide. *Waller.*
9. To fall by error.
The discovering and reprehension of these colours cannot
be done but out of a very universal knowledge of things,
which so cleareth man's judgment, as it is the less apt to
slide into any error. *Bacon.*
10. To be not firm.
Ye fair!
Be greatly cautious of your sliding hearts. *Thomson.*
11. To pass with a free and gentle course or flow.
TO SLIDE. *v. a.* To put imperceptibly.
Little tricks of sophistry by sliding in, or leaving out such
words as entirely change the question, should be abandoned
by all fair disputants. *Watts.*
- SLIDE. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. Smooth and easy passage.
We have some slides or relishes of the voice or strings, con-
tinued without notes, from one to another, rising or falling
which are delightful. *Bacon's Natural History.*

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- Kings that have able men of their nobility shall find ease
in employing them, and a better slide into their business; for
people naturally bend to them. *Bacon.*
2. Flow; even course.
There be, whose fortunes are like Homer's verses, that have
a slide and easiness more than the verses of other poets. *Bac.*
- SLIDER. *n. f.* [from slide.] He who slides.
SLIGHT. *adj.* [Slight, Dutch.]
1. Small; worthless; inconsiderable.
Is Caesar with Antonius priz'd to slight? *Shakespeare.*
Their arms, their arts, their manners I disclose,
Slight is the subject, but the praise not small, *Dryden.*
If heav'n assist, and Phebus hear my call,
Slight is the subject, but not to the praise;
If the inspire, and he approve my lays. *Pope.*
2. Not important; not cogent; weak.
Some firmly embrace doctrines upon slight grounds, some
upon no grounds, and some contrary to appearance. *Lake.*
3. Negligent; not vehement; not done with effect.
The shaking of the head is a gesture of slight refusal. *Bacon.*
He in contempt
At one slight bound high overleap'd all bound. *Milton.*
4. Foolish; weak of mind.
No beast ever was so slight
For man, as for his God, to fight. *Hadriar.*
5. Not strong; thin; as a slight silk.
SLIGHT. *n. f.* [from the adjective.]
1. Neglect; contempt; act of scorn.
People in misfortune construe unavoidable accidents into
slights or neglects. *Clarissa.*
2. Artifice; cunning practice. See SLEIGHT.
As boisterous a thing as force is, it rarely achieves any
thing but under the conduct of fraud. Slight of hand has
done that, which force of hand could never do. *South.*
After Nic had bamboozled John a while, what with slight
of hand, and taking from his own store, and adding to John's,
Nic brought the balance to his own side. *Arbutnot.*
- TO SLIGHT. *v. a.* [from the adjective.]
1. To neglect; to disregard.
Beware lest they transgress and slight that sole command.
Milton.
You cannot expect your son should have any regard for
one whom he sees you slight. *Lake.*
2. To throw carelessly, unless in this passage to slight be the
same with to sling.
The rogues slighted me into the river, with as little
remorse as they would have drowned puppies. *Shakespeare.*
3. [Slighten, Dutch.] To overthrow; to demolish. *Junius.*
Skinner, and Answerer.
4. TO SLIGHTLY. To treat or perform carelessly.
These men, when they have promised great matters, and
failed most shamefully, if they have the perfection of bold-
ness, will but slight it over, and no more ado. *Bacon's Essays.*
His death and your deliverance
Were themes that ought not to be slighted over. *Dryden.*
- SLIGHTLY. *adv.* [from slighting.] Without reverence;
with contempt.
If my speech speaks slightingly of the opinions he opposes,
I have done no more than became the part. *Boyle.*
- SLIGHTLY. *adv.* [from slight.]
1. Negligently; without regard.
Words, both because they are common, and do not so
strongly move the fancy of man, are for the most part but
slightly heard. *Hooker.*
Leave nothing fitting for the purpose
Untouch'd, or slightly handled in discourse. *Shakespeare.*
You were to blame
To part so slightly with your wife's first gift. *Shakespeare.*
The letter-writer dissembles his knowledge of this restriction,
and contents himself slightly to mention it towards the close of
his pamphlet. *Atterbury.*
2. Scornfully; contemptuously.
Long had the Gallick monarch uncontroul'd,
Enlarg'd his borders, and of human force
Opponent slightly thought. *Philips.*
3. Weakly; without force.
Scorn not the facil gates of hell too slightly barr'd. *Milton.*
4. Without worth.
SLIGHTNESS. *n. f.* [from slight.]
1. Weakness; want of strength.
2. Negligence; want of attention; want of vehemence.
Where geotry, title, wisdom,
Cannot conclude but by the yea and no
Of gen'ral ignorance, it must omit
Real necessities, and give way the while
To unstable slightness. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*
What strong cries must they be that shall drown to loud a
clamour of impieties? and how does it reproach the slightness
of our sleepy heartless addresses? *Day of Piety.*
- SLIGHTLY. *adv.* [from slight.] Cunningly; with cunning secrecy;
with subtle covertness.

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- Were there a serpent seen with forked tongue,
That slyly glided towards your majesty,
It were but necessary you were wak'd. *Shakespeare.*
He, closely false and slyly wise,
Cast how he might annoy them most from far. *Fairfax.*
Satan, like a cunning pick-lock, slyly robs us of our grand
treasure. *Devoy of Piety.*
- With this he did a herd of goats controul;
Which by the way he met, and slyly Role:
Clad like a country swain *Dryden.*
May hypocrites,
That slyly speak one thing, another think,
Hateful as hell, pleas'd with the relish weak,
Drink on unwarned, till by enchanting cups
Infatuate, they their wily thoughts disclose,
And through intemperance grow a while sincere. *Philips.*
- SLIM. *adv.* [A cant word as it seems, and therefore not to be
used.] Slender; thin of shape.
A thin slim-gutted fox made a hard shift to wriggle his body
into a henroost; and when he had stuff'd his guts well, squeezed
hard to get out again; but the hole was too little. *L'Estr.*
I was jogg'd on the elbow by a slim young girl of seven-
teen. *Addison.*
- SLIME. *n. f.* [Slim, Saxon; *sligm*, Dutch.] Viscous mire; any
glutinous substance.
The higher Nilus swells
The more it promises: as it ebbs, the seedman
Upon the slime and ooze scatters his grain. *Shakespeare.*
Brick for stone, and slime for mortar. *Gen.*
The vale of Siddim was full of slime-pits. *Gen. xiv. 10.*
God, out of his goodness, caused the wind to blow, to
dry up the abundant slime and mud of the earth, and make
the land more firm, and to cleanse the air of thick vapours
and unwholesome mists. *Raleigh.*
Some plants grow upon the top of the sea, from some con-
cretion of slime where the sun beateth hot, and the sea stir-
reth little. *Bacon's Natural History.*
And with Asphaltick slime, broad as the gate,
Deep to the roots of hell, the gather'd beach
They fasten'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
Now dragon grown; larger than whom the fun
Engender'd in the Pythian vale on slime,
Huge Python! *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
O foul descent! I'm now constrain'd
Into a beast, to mix with bestial slime,
This essence to incarnate and imbrute.
SLIMINESS. *n. f.* [from slimy.] Viscosity; glutinous mat-
ter.
By a weak fermentation a pendulous sliminess is produced,
which answers a pituitous state. *Floyer.*
- SLIMY. *adj.* [from slim.]
1. Overspread with slime.
My bended hook shall pierce
Their slimy jaws; and as I draw them up,
I'll think them every one an Antony. *Shakespeare.*
Some lay in dead men's skulls; and in those holes,
Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept,
As 'twere in scorn of eyes, reflecting gems,
That would the slimy bottom of the deep,
And mock'd the dead bones that lay scatter'd by. *Shak.*
They have cobwebs about them, which is a sign of a slimy
dryness. *Bacon.*
The rest are all by bad example led,
And in their father's slimy tract they tread. *Dryden.*
Eels for want of exercise, are fat and slimy. *Arbutnot.*
Shoals of slow house-bearing do snails creep
O'er the ripe fruitage, paring slimy tracks
In the sleek rind. *Philips.*
The swallow sweeps
The slimy pool to build his hanging house. *Thomson.*
2. Viscous; glutinous.
Then both from out hell-gates, into the waste,
Wide anarchy of chaos, damp and dark,
Hovering upon the waters, what they met
Solid or slimy, as in raging sea,
Toft up and down, together crowded drove. *Milton.*
From their groins they shed
A slimy juice by false conception bred. *Dryden.*
The astrological undertakers would raise men like vege-
tables, out of some fat and slimy soil, well digested by the
kindly heat of the sun, and impregnated with the influence
of the stars. *Bentley.*
- SLIMNESS. *n. f.* [from slimy.] Designing artifice.
By an excellent faculty in mimicry, my correspondent can
assume my air, and give my taciturnity a *slimness*, which di-
verts more than any thing I could say. *Addison.*
- SLING. *n. f.* [Slingan, Saxon; *slingen*, Dutch.]
1. A missile weapon made by a strap and two strings; the
stone is lodged in the strap, and thrown by loosing one of
the strings.
The arrow cannot make him flee: sling stones are turned
with him into fubble. *Job xli. 28.*
Dreads